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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,982	07/16/2003	Calvin E. Lewis	TEL-008	8819
29956	7590	10/31/2006	EXAMINER	
TIMOTHY P. O'HAGAN 8710 KILKENNY CT FORT MYERS, FL 33912			LOVING, JARIC E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2137	

DATE MAILED: 10/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/620,982

Applicant(s)

LEWIS ET AL.

Examiner

Jaric Loving

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/24/05
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 15-20 and 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Curtis et al., US 6,560,707.

In claim 15, Curtis discloses a method of providing secure communications between a plurality of communication units, the method comprising:

conveying a first communication from a first communication unit to a second communication unit, the first communication being unsecure (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7 – central server and multiple workstations; col. 7, lines 29-67 – server sends descriptions to initiate widgets, but no security involved);

determining whether a user-actuated selector to secure communications from the first communication unit to at least the second communication unit is currently actuated (col. 11, lines 21-42; col. 15, lines 1-14 – device can be selected “on” or “off”); and

conveying the second communication from the first communication unit toward the second communication unit in a secure manner if the selector is currently actuated

Art Unit: 2137

(col. 8, lines 9-58 – security requirements of data transmissions require encryption; col. 15, lines 1-36).

In claim 16, Curtis discloses the method of claim 15 further comprising encrypting the second communication if the selector is actuated, wherein conveying the second communication comprises conveying the second, encrypted, communication (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 15, lines 1-36).

In claim 17, Curtis discloses the method of claim 16 wherein the second communication unit is a control unit configured to relay communications from the first communication unit to a plurality of third communication units, the method further comprising:

receiving at the second communication unit, an indication that the second communication is encrypted (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 9, lines 46-66; col. 11, lines 21-42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21);

decrypting the second communication to produce a decrypted second communication (col. 8, lines 19-26);

encrypting the decrypted second communication in accordance with encryption keys, if available, associated with the third communication units to produce re-encrypted second communications (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21); and

conveying the re-encrypted second communications from the second communication unit to the respective third communication units (col. 6, lines 33-54).

In claim 18, Curtis discloses the method of claim 17 further comprising:

providing security indicia to the first communication unit indicative of to which third communication units the second communication unit transmits re-encrypted second communications (col. 6, lines 13-32; col. 15, lines 1-14); and

displaying, on a display associated with the first communication unit, whether communications between the second communication unit and the respective third communication unit are secure (col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 19, Curtis discloses the method of claim 15 further comprising displaying on a display associated with the first communication unit that communication between the first communication unit and the second communication unit is secure (col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 20, Curtis discloses the method of claim 15 wherein the second communication unit is a control unit configured to relay communications from the first communication unit to at least a third communication unit, the method further comprising:

receiving, at the second communication unit, an indication that the selector is actuated (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 15, lines 1-36); and

conveying the second communication from the second communication unit to the third communication unit in a secure manner (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 28, Curtis discloses a telecommunications station for transducing at least one of sound and video signals to outgoing electronic signals and sending the outgoing electronic signals over a telecommunications line and for transducing incoming

Art Unit: 2137

electronic signals received via the telecommunications line to incoming media signals being at least one of incoming sound signals and incoming video signals, the telecommunications station comprising in combination:

an interface module configured to establish a communication session between the station and a communication endpoint over the telecommunications line (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7);

secure session means for detecting operator request for at least secure outgoing communications over the telecommunications line and providing an indication for secure outgoing communications (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7; col. 6, lines 33-54; col. 8, lines 9-58); and

an encryption module coupled to the secure session means and configured to encrypt outgoing electronic signals in response to the indication for secure outgoing communications provided by the secure session means (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 9, lines 46-66; col. 11, lines 21-42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 29, Curtis discloses the station of claim 28 wherein the secure session means is also for detecting an endpoint request, received via the telecommunications line, for at least secure incoming communications and providing an indication for secure incoming communications, and wherein the encryption module is further configured to decrypt incoming electronic signals in response to the indication for secure incoming communications provided by the secure session means (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 11, lines 21-42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 30, Curtis discloses the station of claim 29 wherein the indication for secure incoming communications and the indication for secure outgoing communications are the same indication (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 15, lines 1-36).

In claim 31, Curtis discloses the station of claim 28 further comprising means for indicating secure status of communications from the station via the telecommunications line (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 15, lines 1-36).

In claim 32, Curtis discloses the station of claim 31 wherein the means for indicating secure status comprises means for receiving participant-security indications via the telecommunications line indicative of whether communications to each of multiple conference-call participants are secure (col. 9, lines 66-67; col. 10, line 38 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 33, Curtis discloses the station of claim 32 wherein the means for indicating secure status indicates secure status of a conference-call only if the participant-security indications indicate that communications to all of the conference-call participants are secure (col. 9, lines 66-67; col. 10, line 38 – col. 11, line 42).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2137

4. Claims 1-14 and 21-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Curtis and further in view of Dertz et al., US 2002/0093948.

In claim 1, Curtis discloses a data communication system comprising:

a network interface configured to couple to a network (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7);

a communication session module coupled to the network interface and configured to establish a communication session with a telecommunication device through the packet-switched network (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7; col. 6, lines 33-54);

a communication processing module coupled to the network interface and configured to receive real-time communication data, arrange the communication data in a sequence of packets, and send the sequence of packets to the network interface (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7; col. 6, lines 33-54); and

an encryption module coupled to the communication processing module and configured to selectively encrypt the received communication data in response to an encryption indication received via the network interface (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 9, lines 46-66; col. 11, lines 21-42 – push to talk provides indication of encryption due to communication; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

Curtis fails to teach a packet-switched network. Dertz teaches a packet-switched network (paragraphs [0005], [0030]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Curtis' multimedia coordination system with Dertz's packet-based multimedia communication system utilizing a packet-switched network for data



transfers. It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to provide Curtis' multimedia coordination system with a packet-switched network because it permits communications between multiple endpoints to proceed concurrently over shared paths or connections (Dertz, paragraph [0005]).

In claim 2, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 1 wherein the encryption indication is indicative of an encryption request initiated by a user of the telecommunication device (Curtis, col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 3, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 1 wherein the encryption indication is the received real-time communication data being encrypted (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 4, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 1 wherein the communication session module is configured to establish communication sessions with multiple telecommunication devices through the network, and wherein the communication processing module is further configured to provide a security indication to at least a first of the telecommunication devices through the network interface indicative of whether communications from the network interface toward a second of the telecommunication devices is secure (Curtis, col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 5, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 4 wherein the security indication is indicative of whether communications are encrypted (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 6, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 4 wherein the system includes the first of the telecommunication devices, the first telecommunication device being coupled to the network interface and configured to store a public encryption key and to provide the public encryption key to the encryption module (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 7, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 6 wherein the first telecommunication device includes a secure communication selector and is configured to provide the device encryption key to the encryption module in response to actuation of the secure communication selector (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21; col. 15, lines 1-14).

In claim 8, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 7 wherein the first telecommunication device further includes a docking port for receiving a portable communication device, the first telecommunication device being further configured to provide an encryption indication to the docking port to cause the portable communication device received by the docking port to display an indication that communications from the first telecommunication device to the network interface are encrypted (Curtis, col. 9, lines 66-67; col. 10, line 38 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 9, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 7 wherein the first telecommunication device further includes a docking port for receiving a portable communication device, the first telecommunication device being further configured to process the security indication and to provide the processed security indication to the docking port to cause the portable communication device received by the docking port

Art Unit: 2137

to display an indication that communications from the network interface to at least the second telecommunication device are secure (Curtis, col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7; col. 9, lines 66-67; col. 10, line 38 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 10, Curtis discloses a telecommunication device for communication with a communication endpoint device via a network, the telecommunication device comprising, in combination:

- an interface configured to couple to the network (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7);

- a microphone for receiving sound signals (col. 10, lines 38-62);

- a speaker for providing sound signals corresponding to signals received via the interface from the network (col. 10, lines 38-62); and

- a data processing module coupled to the interface and configured to receive data from the interface, process the received data, and to provide an indication for causing a display at least temporarily associated with the telecommunications device to display an indication of whether communications between the telecommunications device and the endpoint device are secure (col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42).

Curtis fails to teach a packet-switched network. Dertz teaches a packet-switched network (paragraphs [0005], [0030]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Curtis' multimedia coordination system with Dertz's packet-based multimedia communication system utilizing a packet-switched network for data transfers. It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to provide Curtis' multimedia coordination system with a packet-switched

network because it permits communications between multiple endpoints to proceed concurrently over shared paths or connections (Dertz, paragraph [0005]).

In claim 11, Curtis, as modified, discloses the telecommunication device of claim 10 further comprising a device encryption module coupled to the interface and configured to store a public device encryption key and to provide the public device encryption key to the interface for transmission to the endpoint device (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 12, Curtis, as modified, discloses the telecommunication device of claim 11 further comprising a secure communication selector and is configured to provide the public device encryption key to the interface in response to actuation of the secure communication selector (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21; col. 15, lines 1-14).

In claim 13, Curtis, as modified, discloses the telecommunication device of claim 12 further comprising a docking port for receiving a portable communication device, the device encryption module being further configured to provide an encryption indication to the docking port to cause a portable communication device received by the docking port to display an indication that communications from the telecommunication device to the endpoint device are encrypted (Curtis, col. 9, lines 66-67; col. 10, line 38 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 14, Curtis, as modified, discloses the telecommunication device of claim 13 wherein the data processing module is further configured to receive a security indication received by the interface and to provide the encryption indication to the

Art Unit: 2137

docking port in response to receiving the security indication (Curtis, col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7; col. 9, lines 66-67; col. 10, line 38 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 21, Curtis discloses a communication system for bridging communication sessions into a conference call, the system comprising:

at least one network interface configured to couple to a network (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7);

a session module coupled to the at least one network interface and configured to establish communication sessions with a plurality of conference-participating devices through the at least one network interface via the network (col. 5, line 33 – col. 6, line 7; col. 6, lines 33-54);

a signal-mixing module coupled to the session module and configured to mix audio streams from the conference-participating devices and to supply mixed streams toward the conference-participating devices (col. 10, lines 38-62); and

security means, coupled to the at least one network interface and to the signal-mixing module, for securing communications from the signal-mixing module in response to a secure communication indication (col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

Curtis fails to teach a packet-switched network. Dertz teaches a packet-switched network (paragraphs [0005], [0030]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Curtis' multimedia coordination system with Dertz's packet-based multimedia communication system utilizing a packet-switched network for data

Art Unit: 2137

transfers. It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to provide Curtis' multimedia coordination system with a packet-switched network because it permits communications between multiple endpoints to proceed concurrently over shared paths or connections (Dertz, paragraph [0005]).

In claim 22, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 21 wherein the secure communication indication is a security signal received via the at least one network interface from a conference-participating device (Curtis, col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42).

In claim 23, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 21 wherein the security means is configured for notifying at least one of the conference-participating devices to which, if any, of the conference-participating devices the mixed signals are sent in a secure manner (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 24, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 21 wherein the securing communications includes encrypting the mixed streams (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 25, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 21 wherein the securing communications includes directing the mixed signals to limited-access secure lines via the at least one network interface (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

In claim 26, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 21 wherein the security means is configured for decrypting incoming encrypted audio streams (col. 8, lines 19-26).

In claim 27, Curtis, as modified, discloses the system of claim 26 wherein the secure communication indication is an indication that an incoming audio stream is encrypted (Curtis, col. 8, lines 9-58; col. 10, line 63 – col. 11, line 42; col. 13, line 41 – col. 16, line 21).

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Weiman, US 6,141,690; Kaplan et al., US 6,829,234; Voit et al., US 6,137,869; Bigam et al., US 5,684,799; O'Shaughnessey et al., US 6,243,452; McTernan et al., US 2002/0013897; Voit et al., US 2005/0152340.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jaric Loving whose telephone number is (571) 272-1686. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2137

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

*JL*

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